United Nations A/C.2/57/L.22

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 October 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 87 (b)
Environment and sustainable development:
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Venezuela:* draft resolution

Natural disasters and vulnerability

The General Assembly,

Noting that the global environment continues to suffer and that, more specifically, the loss of biodiversity continues, fish stocks continue to be depleted, desertification claims more and more fertile land, adverse effects of climate change are already evident, natural disasters are more frequent and more devastating, as developing countries become more vulnerable, and air, water and marine pollution continues to rob millions of a decent life,

Taking into account the various ways and forms in which all countries, in particular the more vulnerable developing countries, are being exposed to extreme weather events of global reach, such as the El Niño phenomenon,

Bearing in mind that the devastating economic, social and environmental consequences of natural disasters fall disproportionately on poor countries and that the future impacts of extreme weather events will maintain this negative trend,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[2] adopted by the Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[2] in particular paragraph 37, which calls for the implementation of an integrated, inclusive, multi-hazard approach to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

02-66533 (E) 291002

addressing vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, as an essential element of a safer world in the twenty-first century;

2. *Urges* the international community to continue to address ways and means to reduce the adverse effects of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and encourages its Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, particularly its working group on climate and natural disasters, to continue its work in this regard;

3. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention[4] to continue to address the adverse effects of climate change, especially in those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and also encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural systems of developing countries;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution within its report under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction".

---

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[4] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.